

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRIDGE 01457 221920Z

ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARAE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 MCT-01 AID-05 PC-01 /067 W

-----045766 221929Z /43

P R 221559Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3035

INFO AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY NASSAU

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRIDGETOWN 1457

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PINR, SHUM, GJ

SUBJ: GRENADA OPPOSITION DEMONSTRATION BROKEN BY GAIRY GOVT

REF: BRIDGETOWN 1334, (B) BRIDGETOWN 0864, (C) USOAS DEL 047

1. IN DENYING PERMISSION FOR USE OF LOUDSPEAKERS AT NEW JEWEL MOVEMENT (NJM) MEETING (OPPOSITION COALITION PARTNER, THE CONSERVATIVE BUT ANTI-GAIRY GRENADA NATIONAL PARTY DID NOT PARTICIPATE) ON JUNE 19, PRIME MINISTER GAIRY SET THE STAGE FOR THE CONFRONTATION THAT FOLLOWED, BUT IT WAS OBVIOUSLY IN THE INTEREST OF NJM LEADER MAURICE BISHOP TO FORCE THE ISSUE.

2. BY HAVING THE POLICE LIMIT THEIR ACTIONS TO FIRING INTO THE AIR, GAIRY DID MAKE A SMALL CONCESSION TO THE PRESENCE OF THE OASGA AND FOREIGN NEWSMEN. BISHOP'S OWN FATHER, RUPERT BISHOP, WAS KILLED BY ONE OF GAIRY'S THUGS AFTER TAKING REFUGE IN A BUILDING FOLLOWING A JANUARY 1974

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PAGE 02 BRIDGE 01457 221920Z

ANTI-GOVERNMENT DEMONSTRATION, FOR EXAMPLE, AND GAIRY HAS NEVER HESITATED TO USE PHYSICAL INTIMIDATION AS A POLITICAL TACTIC.

3. GAIRY'S REFERENCE TO HIS DIVINE RIGHT TO RULE (REF C) AND A JUNE 18 RADIO GRENADA ITEM THAT GOD HAD DESIGNED THE OASGA TO TAKE PLACE IN GRENADA PROMPTED THE BARBADOS

ADVOCATE-NEWS TO EDITORIALIZE ON JUNE 21 THAT GRENADA MAY NEED DIVINE INTERVENTION TO DEVELOP A SENSE OF JUSTICE. THE NEWSPAPER ALSO GUARDEDLY SAID GAIRY'S MIXED UP THINKING IN RELYING ON FORCE TO DEAL WITH HIS OPPOSITION PROVIDED OASGA VISITORS WITH A VIVID EXAMPLE OF SUPPRESSION AND HARASSMENT, BUT ALSO NOTED NJM ACTIONS WERE THOSE OF PEOPLE "BENT ON STIRRING UP A ROW."

4. JUST AS GAIRY NOTED THE SIMILARITY OF THE WAY THE BRITISH DEALT WITH HIS OPPOSITION IN THE EARLY 1950'S AND THE WAY HE NOW DEALS WITH THE OPPOSITION (REF C), SO ONE COULD EXPECT A FUTURE NJM-LED GRENADA TO DEAL WITH ITS OPPOSITION, IF NOT MORE FORCEABLY (REFS A AND B). BISHOP AND OTHER NJM LEADERS ARE NO DEMOCRATIC SAINTS, NOR HAVE THE NJM'S RECENT DRIVES FOR POLITICAL RESPECTABILITY BEEN CONVINCING IN SEPARATING THE MARXISM IT ESPOUSES FROM THE TOTALITARIANISM THE IDEOLOGY HAS COME TO MEAN.
SIMMS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS, OPPOSITION PARTIES, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 22-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Line Count: 80
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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